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January 17, 2002 LB 823, 824

beginning with Roe v. Wade, the Supreme Court of the United States has recognized a Fourteenth Amendment privacy right in a pregnant woman that permits her to choose whether to abort pregnancy with no, or at most limited, opportunity for a state to prohibit her from that choice, at least prior to the time at which the unborn child could live outside her womb. context of abortion cases the Supreme Court of the United States has refused to find an independent and absolute right to...to live of an unborn child that overrides a mother's privacy right. In so holding, the Supreme Court did declare that a state may never protect the right to live of an unborn child. Nor did the court declare that an unborn child cannot be treated as a living being in context other than abortion. The abortion line of cases quite simply speaks to a different issue, a woman's right to choose, that is clearly absent in cases of wrongful death or In fact, in upholding a woman's right to choose what befalls her unborn child, the abortion cases are entirely consistent with the underlying policies of LB 823 and LB 824, as these bills provide for sanctioning a wrongdoer ...

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: One minute.

SENATOR QUANDAHL: ...whose act resulted in...resulting in the death of an unborn child directly against that mother's choice. And I think that's important to recognize. What I've been reading here comes directly from a letter written by Professor Josephine Potuto that was sent to Senator Kermit Brashear. And, I stand to oppose this motion to recommit this matter back to the committee. I think the idea behind LB 824 is sound, and there are others that, that believe and constitutionally sound law. Now the choice between Senator Brashear's amendment and Senator Foley's amendment, I realize that there's some grappling here that needs to be done over whose choice is best. But what I want to get across is, is that either choice, that being Senator Foley's choice or Senator Brashear's choice, is constitutionally sound. Thank you.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Jones.

SENATOR JONES: Mr. President, members of the body, I want to stand in opposition of recommitting it back to the committee,